

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

March 16, 2015

The Honorable Jonathan Jarvis  
Director  
National Park Service  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Director Jarvis:

Our National Parks are embraced by local communities and visitors alike and reflect our collective heritage through important designations and conservation of special sites across this nation. This work is carried out by dedicated on-site teams that are uniquely attuned to the needs of the park, the opportunities for growth and engagement, and the pulse of surrounding communities. We write in support of continuing such a full-time, on-site presence at Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial, one of Ohio's premier installations, which is managed by the National Park Service (NPS).

We are alarmed that a current proposal would sever critical ties between Perry's Memorial and its host community, and would add a layer of complexity in addressing the needs of the site within the NPS administrative system. The idea that resources, and more importantly, management of this popular site would shift to a non-contiguous, smaller installation in a different state is both concerning and puzzling.

Moreover, we question the necessity of such a change, given the funding increase provided to NPS for fiscal year 2015, including the Operations account, and the further increase requested for fiscal year 2016. We understand there are pressures across agencies for cost savings, but in this particular case, the agency is not being asked to do more with less, NPS is being asked to do the same with more.

Finally, we understand that an NPS internal team has been identified to study this structural change. This non-public review process gives stakeholders no opportunity to add their voice to an important conversation on a key NPS holding. Any process the Park Service employs to justify proceeding on a different course must be open and transparent to the public.

We strongly support maintaining Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial as a standalone National Park with a full-time, on-site superintendent, appropriate staff, and effective programming. In addition, discussions on downgrading Perry's Memorial's status should be open and transparent to the public.

Sincerely,



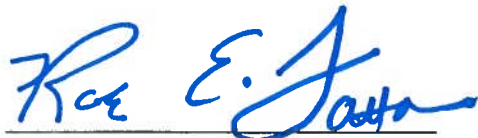
MARCY KAPTUR  
Member of Congress



SHERROD BROWN  
U.S. Senator

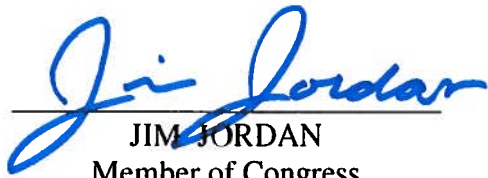


ROB PORTMAN  
U.S. Senator



---

BOB LATTA  
Member of Congress



---

JIM JORDAN  
Member of Congress